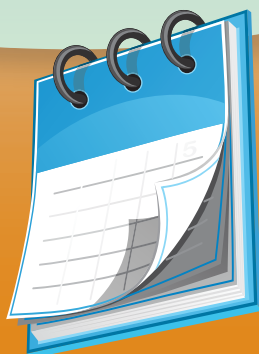


WASTEWATCH

building a greener future

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**



MARYLAND RECYCLING NETWORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Visit the MRN website for additional details.
www.marylandrecyclingnetwork.org



CRT RECYCLING IS MAJOR TOPIC AT E-SCRAP 2014

In October, more than a thousand professionals, from government contractors to small business owners, attended "E-Scrap 2014" in Orlando, Florida. This annual conference brings together e-waste professionals from around the world. New and innovative equipment, methods and resources are shared, discussed and sometimes debated among leaders from both government and the e-waste recycling industry.

The first day of the three-day conference was dedicated to certifying and educating individuals and organizations that recycle electronics.

The highlight of the second day was a roundtable discussion with five of the top industry leaders, including Steve Skurnac, President of Sims Recycling Solutions, one of the Authority's vendors for electronics recycling. During this discussion, attendees focused on the issue of recycling cathode ray tube monitors and televisions (CRTs), which is considered a "crisis" by many industry professionals. Much was made of the stockpiling of CRTs around the country. One estimate showed a five-year backlog of material on the ground. The problem is two-fold. There are not enough recycling outlets for the leaded glass, which is the heaviest part of CRTs, and there's no market for recycled CRTs because LED and LCD monitors and

televisions have taken over the retail market. But, there are emerging technologies for recycling CRTs that could increase the capacity for processing these items in the near future. Meanwhile, many retailers, including Best Buy and Staples, have robust take-back programs to help consumers who want to recycle his or her CRTs and other electronic devices.

Sessions were also held to discuss the challenges of recycling and reuse of mobile phones along with prospects for future expansion. One of the challenges is that the prevalence of kill switches in modern devices protects the owner but makes reuse impossible. Additional time was given to discussions about electronics recycling around the world, with presentations on e-cycling practices in Latin America and India. A study was presented, which showed that a vast majority of American electronics are exported to Canada and Mexico, then Hong Kong. The practice in some of these countries is to further export these materials to other countries.

E-Scrap 2015 is scheduled for the first week of September 2015. For more information on this conference, please contact sblake@nmwda.org.

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FISCAL YEAR 2014

Annual Report Letter



Assisting Member Jurisdictions with solid waste and recycling planning and operations while focusing on energy creation is the mission of the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority. In Fiscal Year 2014, we worked with our members to meet these challenges and partnered with each Jurisdiction on a broad range of projects.

Service to Members

In addition to managing large-scale projects and negotiating contracts for Member Jurisdictions, the Authority staff and a talented team of consultants conducted a wide range of studies. This year, some of those projects included assisting Harford County with a full-cost accounting study that will help the County decide whether or not to move to a special purpose fund for solid waste. The study also is analyzing the benefits of contracting for waste collection, with a goal of reducing costs while improving service to residents. This study will be completed in FY2015.

The Authority also assisted Baltimore, Harford, Frederick and Howard Counties with environmental monitoring and design work for their respective landfills. In Anne Arundel County, the Authority helped develop a two-season waste sort to identify recyclable materials in the waste stream. The County will target these materials in its outreach program. For Baltimore City, the Authority reviewed truck routing to improve efficiencies and reduce costs and provided guidance on infrastructure improvements at the City landfill. Through an existing contract held on behalf of Frederick County, the Authority staff was able to coordinate

the processing of a small volume of recyclables in Montgomery County.

The Authority also manages the sale of Renewable Energy Credits (RECS) and electricity for several Jurisdiction projects, which is a project enhancement for Authority Members (see article page 5).

Zero Waste

Reflecting back over the year, the concept of “Zero Waste” has been in the mainstream of discussions about solid waste management throughout the State. As presented in the Spring edition of WasteWatch (<http://www.nmwda.org/leadership/documents/WasteWatch-SpringIssue2014.pdf>), the Authority has been working to educate Member Jurisdictions on how implementing the concept of Zero Waste can help them. There are many potential changes coming to all subdivisions in the State of Maryland as a result of the Maryland Department of the Environment’s “Zero Waste Maryland” plan. The plan provides for the State to reach high recycling and diversion goals with a heavy reliance on the separation and recycling of food scrap. The Authority anticipates that all future solid waste and recycling programs in the State will be influenced by the goals of this plan, which also ties into the Governor’s 2013 Greenhouse Gas Reduction plan. Both plans recognize the role WTE will continue to play in solid waste management and greenhouse gas reduction in Maryland.


Regional Organics

Authority Members are increasingly interested in food scrap recycling as a potential source for raising recycling rates in their Jurisdictions. The primary technologies used to accomplish

organics processing are composting and anaerobic digestion, followed by composting. However, there are limited opportunities within Maryland to process food scrap. To address this issue, the Authority was tasked this year with pursuing the development of a regional organics processing facility. We issued a procurement on behalf of Members in February, offering some potential sites within Member Jurisdictions, while also allowing vendors to provide their own sites. Proposals were received in July. The Authority staff will be working with Members and vendors in FY2015 to identify successful proposals. Our goal is to seek a privately operated facility that will be able to process food scrap for reuse, with the added potential of processing yard waste and bio solids to attract the widest array of vendors.

E-cycling

Dramatic market changes in the e-cycling business world during FY2014 led the Authority to re-procure e-cycling services for Member Jurisdictions. The cost for recycling old Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) equipment skyrocketed because there is little market for CRTs and less demand for recycling (see article page 1). Under the new contract, recycling mixed electronics that contain CRTs went from a revenue generating endeavor to a significant cost. Authority Members received grants from the Maryland Department of the Environment to help curtail some of this dramatic price increase. The graph (see article page 5) shows nearly 60 percent of the electronic material collected in FY2014 was CRT TVs and monitors. The Authority staff will continue to meet with industry participants to stay informed on developing trends in this recycling sector.



Anne Arundel County

Baltimore City

Baltimore County

Legislation

The Authority tracks legislation in Annapolis every year. During the 2014 Maryland General Assembly session, several bills were introduced that could impact Authority Members. Among them were: 1.) Legislation that would allow Wicomico County to join the Authority upon a resolution from the Wicomico County Council. Wicomico County is considering various improvements to their solid waste and recycling system; 2.) Legislation requiring counties to address special events recycling in their recycling plans. The goal is to increase the amount of recyclables collected at community events held on publicly owned land in which 200 or more people are anticipated to attend. This could include sporting events, farmers markets, street festivals, etc.; and 3.) Legislation requiring the State Highway Administration (SHA) to study the incorporation of compost re-use in construction specifications. It is anticipated that increasing the use of compost by the SHA will increase the need for compost and help spur the development of organics composting facilities.

Another Award for the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility

The Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) continued to

garner recognition. This year the EPA presented the facility with a Clean Air Technology Award for the voluntary upgrade of its air pollution control system to remove additional nitrogen oxides (NOx) from emissions. The upgraded system, called LN for “Low NOx,” was developed by Covanta Energy, operator of the facility. LN reduces NOx emissions by an additional 50 percent more than the previous system, removing an additional 400-500 tons-per-year of NOx from the environment. This EPA award is the 10th environmental or engineering award the RRF has won in its 19 years of operation.

Another milestone for the RRF was reached this year when the facility processed its 10 millionth ton of waste. Congratulations to Montgomery County and Covanta on these accomplishments.

Frederick County Waste-to-Energy Update

Two important developments emerged this year in the ongoing process to build a regional waste-to-energy facility in Frederick County. In February, the Maryland Department of the Environment granted permits to the Authority, which will allow us to proceed with financing the facility. Then, in April, the Authority, Frederick County, Carroll County and Wheelabrator, the design/build/operate contractor, all

agreed to honor Carroll County’s request to be released from the project. However, as of the close of FY2014, the Authority had not yet found a replacement partner for the project, which has delayed the financing process. The difficulty in finding a replacement partner rests on two major issues—the extended distance a new partner county would have to travel in transporting waste to Frederick County and continued low energy rates.

The Authority is working with Frederick County on possible long-term transfer and disposal options in case the waste-to-energy project does not move forward (see article on page 6).

Continuing Education

The solid waste, recycling and renewable energy landscape is ever-changing. To remain at the forefront, Authority staff participates with and takes leadership roles in several industry and stakeholder groups. This year, the Authority continued to work as part of the MDE stakeholder group regarding food scrap composting regulation, which will help foster food scrap composting facilities in Maryland.

Staff members also participated this year in the stakeholder group for the Maryland Clean Energy Center, which promotes renewable energy generation in Maryland. Authority staff members

“As we move ahead into FY2015, the Authority staff and leadership will continue to assist Members in finding environmentally and fiscally sound solutions for managing recycling and solid waste resources.”

Carroll County

Frederick County

Harford County

Howard County

Montgomery County

also serve on the boards of the Maryland Recycling Network and the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA). Both organizations promote sound planning and management of recycling and solid waste.

Through these various organizations, the Authority is able to stay current on trends in recycling and waste management while serving as a resource to members.

In Conclusion

Fiscal Year 2014 was an active year for the Authority's dedicated staff. We managed numerous projects and studies while continuing to seek economic solutions for Member Jurisdictions that will benefit all Marylanders for years to come. Our efforts would not have been successful without the help of our equally dedicated Board Members and their respective teams. As we move ahead into FY2015, the Authority staff and leadership will continue to assist Members in finding environmentally and fiscally sound solutions for managing recycling and solid waste resources.

If you would like a copy of our FY2014 Audited Financial Statements, please contact us at **410-333-2730**.

Christopher Skaggs

Executive Director



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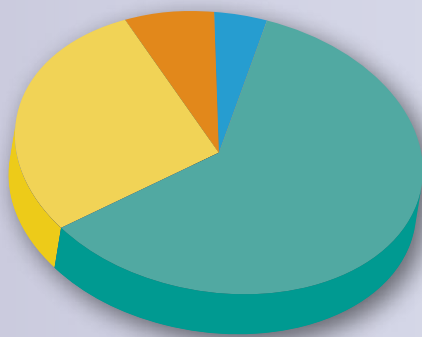


Operational Highlights

The Authority continued to manage many projects and contracts. Operational highlights include:

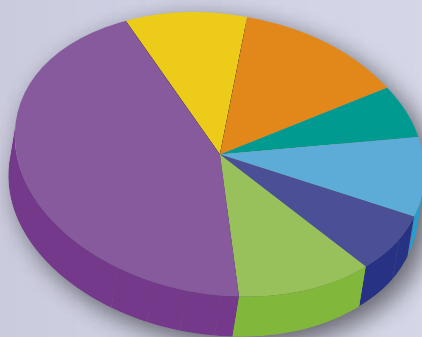
- More than 1.3 million tons of waste managed through Authority contracts.
- 34,803 tons recycled through Authority contracted facilities.
- Nearly 11 million pounds of electronics recycled through the Authority's master service agreement.
- 448,473 MWh's of renewable energy credits generated for sale from Authority owned/managed facilities.

E-cycling Commodity Breakdown FY 2014 (in pounds)



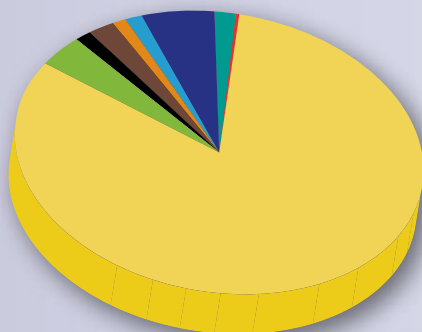
| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 765,265 | Computers (PCs, laptops, servers) |
| 428,517 | LCD Monitors and TVs |
| 6,165,493 | CRT Monitors and TVs |
| 2,898,929 | Copiers, Printers, Peripherals, Misc. |
| Total: 10,864,803 | |

Solid Waste Processed through Authority Contracts (FY 14) (in tons)



| | | | |
|---------|---|------------------|--|
| 128,404 | Anne Arundel County Transfer & Disposal | 98,218 | Howard Co. Transfer & Disposal |
| 172,988 | Baltimore City - BRESCO | 143,358 | Frederick Co. Transfer & Disposal |
| 78,555 | Carroll County Transfer & Disposal | 578,186 | Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility |
| 118,443 | Harford WTE | Total: 1,174,794 | |

Renewable Energy Credits Generated for Sale in FY2014



| | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 6,536 | Howard Alpha Ridge | 17,200 | Montgomery Oaks LF |
| 25,900 | AA Millersville LF | 5,764 | Montgomery Gude LF |
| 8,185 | Baltimore City Back River WWTP | 10,058 | PG Brown Station LF |
| 827 | Harford WTE | 4,480 | PG Corrections |
| 369,523 | Montgomery RRF | Total RECS Generated: 448,473 | |



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Waste
Disposal
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FREDERICK COUNTY VOTES TO RELINQUISH WTE CONTRACT AND CONTINUE WITH OUT-OF-STATE LANDFILLING

After a public hearing on November 20, the Frederick County Board of County Commissioners voted 3-2 to instruct the Authority to terminate the contracts for building the Frederick Regional Waste-to-Energy Facility. This project had been in the development phase for nearly 10 years. The Commissioners did not feel that the facility would be economically

viable for the County in the near term because energy prices remain low—a factor that had also compounded efforts to find a replacement for Carroll County, an initial partner in the project. Carroll County requested to be released from the project earlier this year. At the same meeting, Commissioners approved the Authority moving forward with

a contract to transfer and dispose out-of-state waste delivered to the Frederick County transfer station. This contract will have an initial term of two-and-a-half years, with up to two-and-a-half years of extensions available.